

29. An adenovirus according to claim 27, wherein the DNA sequence is a gDNA sequence.

30. An adenovirus according to claim 27, wherein the DNA sequence encodes a bovine glutathione peroxidase.

31. An adenovirus according to claim 27, wherein the DNA sequence encodes a human glutathione peroxidase.

32. A replication defective recombinant adenovirus comprising at least one DNA sequence encoding an antisense sequence capable of controlling the expression of a gene encoding glutathione peroxidase.

33. An adenovirus according to claim 32, wherein the antisense sequence is an antisense RNA capable of controlling the translation of the mRNA for a glutathione peroxidase.

34. An adenovirus according to claim 27, wherein the DNA sequence is under the control of signals controlling expression in target cells.

35. An adenovirus according to claim 34, wherein the signal is a viral promoter.

36. An adenovirus according to claim 35, wherein the promoter is selected from the group consisting of E1A, MLP, CMV and RSV-LTR promoters.

37. An adenovirus according to claim 27, comprising a gDNA or cDNA sequence encoding a bovine glutathione peroxidase under the control of an RSV-LTR promoter.

38. An adenovirus according to claim 27, comprising a gDNA or cDNA sequence encoding a human glutathione peroxidase under the control of an RSV-LTR promoter.

39. An adenovirus according to claim 27, lacking regions of the genome necessary for its replication in a target cell.

40. An adenovirus according to claim 39, comprising ITRs and a sequence permitting encapsidation, wherein the E1 gene and at least one of the E2, E4, or L1-L5 genes are not functional.

41. An adenovirus according to claim 39, wherein said adenovirus is an Ad 2 or Ad 5 human adenovirus or a CAV-2 canine adenovirus.

42. A method for the treatment and/or prevention of a neurodegenerative disease comprising administering to a patient an adenovirus according to claim 27.

43. A method according to claim 42, wherein the neurodegenerative disease is selected from the group consisting of Parkinson's disease, Alzheimer's disease, Huntington's disease, ALS, trisomy 21, atherosclerosis, cardiovascular diseases, cirrhosis of the liver, diabetes, the formation of cataracts, cerebral ischaemia, cranial traumas, respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS), cancers and the aging process.

44. A pharmaceutical composition comprising one or more replication defective recombinant adenoviruses according to claim 27.

45. A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 44, in injectable form.

46. A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 44, comprising between  $10^4$  and  $10^{14}$  pfu/ml of defective recombinant adenoviruses.

47. A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 46, comprising between  $10^6$  to  $10^{10}$  pfu/ml of defective recombinant adenoviruses.

48. A mammalian cell infected with one or more defective recombinant adenoviruses according to claim 27.

49. A mammalian cell according to claim 48, wherein said cell is a human cell.

50. A mammalian cell according to claim 49, wherein said cell is a retinal cell, fibroblast, myoblast, hepatocyte, endothelial cell, glial cell or keratinocyte.

51. An implant comprising a cell according to claim 48 and an extracellular matrix.

52. An implant according to claim 51, wherein the extracellular matrix comprises a gelling compound.

53. An implant according to claim 52, wherein the gelling compound is selected from the group consisting of collagen, gelatin, glucosaminoglycans, fibronectin, agarose and lectins.

54. An implant according to claim 51, wherein the extracellular matrix comprises a support for anchorage of infected cells.

55. An implant according to claim 54, wherein the support comprises polytetrafluoroethylene fibres.